

Title: References made to the passing away of Shri Ram Dhani Das (Member Provisional Parliament and First Lok Sabha) on 12.06.2000 and Shri J.H. Patel (Member Fourth Lok Sabha) on 12.12.2000 respectively.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our former colleagues, Sarvashri Ram Dhani Das and J.H. Patel.

Shri Ram Dhani Das was a Member of Provisional Parliament from 1950 to 1952 and the First to Fourth Lok Sabhas from 1952 to 1970 representing Nawada and Gaya Parliamentary Constituencies of Bihar.

As a freedom fighter, Shri Das actively participated in Quit India Movement, 1942, and also suffered imprisonment.

A teacher by profession, Shri Das was an active political and social worker. He worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and other backward sections of the society.

Shri Ram Dhani Das passed away on 12 July, 2000 at Patna at the age of 75.

Shri J.H. Patel was a Member of Fourth Lok Sabha from 1967 to 1970 representing Shimoga Parliamentary Constituency of Karnataka.

An able administrator, Shri Patel was the Chief Minister of Karnataka from 1996 to 1999 and Deputy Chief Minister in 1994. Earlier he also served as a Minister in the State.

An advocate by profession and an active social and political worker, Shri Patel worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the poor, weaker and downtrodden sections.

He was instrumental in finding an agreement on sharing of Cauvery Waters between the States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. He evinced keen interest in ameliorating the plight of farmers in the State.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Patel actively participated in the freedom movement and suffered imprisonment in 1947.

Shri J.H. Patel passed away on 12 December, 2000 at Bangalore at the age of 70.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of departed souls.

11.02-1/2 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.